IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1-8.   (Cancelled)

9.   (Currently Amended)   A method for managing annotations for multiple versions of documents, comprising:

selecting one or more annotation versioning policies dictating how annotations made for a current version of a document are applied, by operation of one or more computer processors, to a subsequent version of the document, wherein the subsequent version of the document includes one or more revisions to substantive content of the current version of the document; and

allowing creators of annotations for a current version of a document to select one or more of the annotation versioning policies to dictate how the annotations are applied, by operation of the one or more computer processors, to subsequent versions of the document.

10.   (Original)   The method of claim 9, wherein at least one of the annotation versioning policies dictates that annotations made for a current version will not be applied to subsequent versions of the document.

11.   (Original)   The method of claim 9, wherein the one or more annotation versioning policies selected are applied at the document level, to all annotations created for a document.

12.   (Original)   The method of claim 9, wherein at least one of the annotation versioning policies dictates that an annotation created for a current version of a document will be applied to subsequent versions of the document.

13.   (Original)   The method of claim 9, wherein at least one of the annotation versioning policies dictates that an authorized user must validate an annotation created for a current version of a document before the annotation is applied to subsequent versions of the document.

14-24. (Cancelled)

25.   (Currently Amended)   A method for managing annotations for multiple versions of documents, comprising:

defining a set of available annotation policies, each dictating how an annotation created for a current version of a document are applied, by operation of one or more computer processors, to one or more subsequent versions of the document, wherein each subsequent version of the document includes one or more revisions to substantive content of the current version of the document; and

providing an interface allowing a user to select one or more of the available annotation policies to be applied, by operation of the one or more computer processors, to the annotation.

26.   (Original)   The method of claim 25, wherein defining a set of available annotation policies comprises associating one or more annotation policies for use with annotations made for a certain type of document.

27.   (Original)   The method of claim 25, wherein the annotation policies provided to the user in the interface is determined, at least in part, on a credential of the user.

28.   (Original)   The method of claim 27, wherein the annotation policies provided to the user in the interface is determined, at least in part, on a type of document associated with the annotation.

29.   (Original)   The method of claim 25, wherein defining a set of available annotation policies comprises defining the set of available annotation policies by an administrator, wherein the administrator and the user are different entities.

30.   (Previously Presented)   The method of claim 9, wherein at least one of the annotation versioning policies dictates that an annotation created for a current version of a document and applied to a subsequent version of the document includes a marker indicating that the annotation in the subsequent version of the document is unvalidated.

31.   (Previously Presented)   The method of claim 30, wherein the marker is included in the annotation in the subsequent version of the document until an authorized user validates the annotation created for the current version of the document.

        Please add the following new claims:

32.   (New) A computer readable storage medium containing a program which, when executed, performs an operation for managing annotations for multiple versions of documents, comprising:

        defining a set of available annotation policies, each dictating how an annotation created for a current version of a document are applied, by operation of one or more computer processors, to one or more subsequent versions of the document, wherein each subsequent version of the document includes one or more revisions to substantive content of the current version of the document; and

        providing an interface allowing a user to select one or more of the available annotation policies to be applied, by operation of the one or more computer processors, to the annotation.

33.   (New) The computer readable storage medium of claim 32, wherein defining a set of available annotation policies comprises associating one or more annotation policies for use with annotations made for a certain type of document.

34.   (New) The computer readable storage medium of claim 32, wherein the annotation policies provided to the user in the interface is determined, at least in part, on a credential of the user.

35.   (New) The computer readable storage medium of claim 34, wherein the annotation policies provided to the user in the interface is determined, at least in part, on a type of document associated with the annotation.

36.   (New) The computer readable storage medium of claim 32, wherein the set of available annotation policies is defined based on user input from an administrator, wherein the administrator and the user are different entities.

37.   (New) A system, comprising:
         a computer processor; and
         a memory containing a program, which when executed by the computer processor is configured to perform an operation for compensating for managing annotations for multiple versions of documents, comprising:
                 defining a set of available annotation policies, each dictating how an annotation created for a current version of a document are applied, by operation of the computer processor, to one or more subsequent versions of the document, wherein each subsequent version of the document includes one or more revisions to substantive content of the current version of the document; and
                 providing an interface allowing a user to select one or more of the available annotation policies to be applied, by operation of the computer processor, to the annotation.

38.   (New) The system of claim 37, wherein defining a set of available annotation policies comprises associating one or more annotation policies for use with annotations made for a certain type of document.

39.   (New) The system of claim 37, wherein the annotation policies provided to the user in the interface is determined, at least in part, on a credential of the user.

40.   (New) The system of claim 39, wherein the annotation policies provided to the user in the interface is determined, at least in part, on a type of document associated with the annotation.

41.   (New) The system of claim 37, wherein the set of available annotation policies is defined based on user input from an administrator, wherein the administrator and the user are different entities.